REMARKS

I.   Preliminary Remarks

Minor modifications have been made to the specification. Claims 27-29 have been canceled. No claims have been added or amended. Claims 30-49 remain in the application.

II.   Election of Species Requirement

In response to the Election of Species Requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121, applicant provisionally elects Species XV (Figures 35-36A) <u>without traverse.</u> Applicant respectfully submits that, at a minimum, claims 30-49 are directed to the elected species and that claims 30-49 are generic. [Note the specification at, for example, page 25, lines 16-19.]

III.   Closing Remarks

Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are respectfully requested. Allowance of the claims at an early date is courteously solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call applicant's undersigned representative at (310) 563-1458 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.
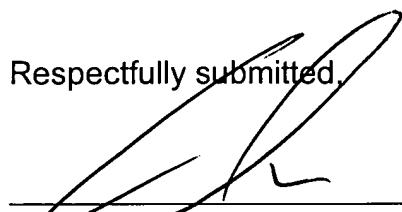
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0638. Should such

fees be associated with an extension of time, applicant respectfully requests that this paper be considered a petition therefor.

Respectfully submitted,

10/28/02
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Date

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VERSION OF AMENDMENTS WITH MARKINGS TO
SHOW CHANGES MADE

On page 1, the paragraph on lines 2-4 has been amended as follows:

This application is a divisional of co-pending U.S. application Serial No. 09/150,833, filed September 10, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,287,301, which is a continuation-in-part of co-pending U.S. application Serial No. 08/902,742, filed July 29, 1997, now abandoned, which is incorporated herein by reference.